

As a teacher on leave from Mankato West, I have had the honor to teach with Scott.

I've seen how Scott's passion for teaching and outstanding leadership inspires students to achieve their true potential. He encourages students to learn the material not for a test, but to increase their knowledge and shape their world view.

Scott's success with students is truly unmatched. Over the past 11 years at Mankato West, students in his AP government and politics class have maintained an 80 percent pass rate on the national AP exam, well above the state and national averages. Last year, 85 students took the exam in his class and 46 achieved the highest possible score, five out of five.

Students in Scott's advanced placement government and politics class come away with a superior knowledge of our political system and a deep appreciation for our democracy.

For 27 years Scott has challenged every student that walks into his classroom to go beyond what is expected. His efforts have impacted a generation of students and we in Minnesota are lucky to have him. I can think of no one else who deserves this award as much as he does.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Scott Urban for his life of dedication and service to his community and his country.

BP DEEPWATER HORIZON OIL SPILL

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, the tragic BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico has cost the nation billions of dollars in economic damages to the United States, as well as widespread devastation of our natural resources. There is an immediate need to act—to stop the leak, clean up the oil, and repair our fragile economy and ecosystem. But we will be making an irreparable mistake if we do not take this opportunity to examine our energy needs for the future.

Historians will look back on this era as a turning point. The BP disaster and its resulting damage to our economy and to nature will reshape Americans' support for renewable energy versus continued dependence on oil.

It is impossible for us to comprehend the magnitude of the oil spill in the Gulf; we may not be able to calculate the true costs for years. But in the midst of unprecedented tragedy, we see hopeful signs of change.

The military—one of the largest users of energy—is looking at alternative sources of power. In my district in New York's Hudson Valley, the United States Military Academy at West Point is beginning to use solar and wind energy.

Renewable energy is being produced in other places unimaginable not long ago. More than 1,300 billboards in Florida will be converted to solar and wind energy by the Lamar Advertising Company. This is notable because it showcases renewable energy as a practical and accepted corporate solution.

Further, billboards are visible. The solar panels and small wind turbines will create awareness about renewable energy, sending a

message that renewable energy is not some far away idealist dream. It's doable, and it's doable now.

The kilowatt production from this project will be significant. Just as important, the hardware is made in the United States. In Times Square, office equipment provider Ricoh just completed a solar-powered electronic billboard. Hardware came from companies based in California, Ohio, and Rhode Island.

Renewable energy is a growth industry here at home. In my congressional district, a solar-cell company moved into existing manufacturing space, which had been vacant. Where did the previous jobs go? China.

My congressional district is also home to SpectraWatt, which has started to manufacture advanced silicon photovoltaic cells at the Hudson Valley Research Park in Hopewell Junction, NY. When I toured this facility with Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis in late March, 60 people were on the payroll. Since then, nine additional employees have been hired and additional hires are expected soon.

As we ponder the sobering consequences of the BP oil spill in the Gulf, I ask my colleagues to not only look at our immediate crisis, but to also consider an energy policy that spurs the development of renewable technologies. As we invest in renewable energy and rebuild our energy infrastructure, we can also boost our manufacturing base and create a broad array of quality jobs. Now is the time to rebuild: our economy and our environment depend on us.

HONORING JOHN BRYANT BEALL, SR.

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize Mr. John Bryant Beall, Sr. Mr. Beall is a World War II veteran who will finally receive a significant military honor at the Edom July 4th Celebration.

President Coolidge once said, "A nation which forgets its defenders, will itself soon be forgotten." I am proud of Mr. Karl Little, who helped Mr. Beall realize this honor, and everyone who is taking the time on Independence Day to honor him.

Mr. Beall will be awarded the Bronze Star Medal during a ceremony on July 4th. He joined the U.S. Army in February of 1943 and reached the rank of Private 1st Class before his discharge in November of 1945. Mr. Beall served on the front lines of combat in two campaigns in Central Europe.

Mr. Beall was one of five brothers that were raised in Edom. Mr. Beall, along with three of his brothers, served in World War II, while his oldest brother was too old to serve in the military. It is certainly a testament of courage and patriotism for the Beall family to risk so much in the defense of our nation.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the entire 5th Congressional District of Texas, to thank Mr. Beall and his family for their service to our country. We should be eternally grateful for our servicemen and women in the past and present who have fought to preserve liberty for our generation and generations to come.

HONORING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY IN COATESVILLE

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th anniversary of the oldest, continuously operating steel mill in the United States located in Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

During the last two centuries, men and women of great character, tremendous ingenuity and bold leadership have contributed to the longevity and success of Coatesville's iron and steel industry, which helped sustain a community and fueled America's growth and prosperity.

The steel mill that Isaac Pennock established on the banks of the Brandywine River in the early 19th Century developed into an industrial complex that housed the world's largest plate mill thanks to the efforts of Dr. Charles Lukens, Rebecca Lukens and several generations of leaders. Today, the world's largest steel producer, ArcelorMittal, operates the facility and employs 820 men and women there.

The plant is responsible for several historically significant achievements. Rebecca Lukens is recognized as America's first female chief executive officer. In addition, the rolling plates for the *Cordorus*, the first iron-hulled vessel, and the *Nautilus*, the first nuclear submarine, were manufactured at the facility. More recently, the "steel trees" from the World Trade Center, which stood tall after the September 11, 2001 attack, returned home to Coatesville where they were manufactured.

Dedicated employees with work ethics as strong as the steel plates they forge also have been integral to the success of the plant. These highly-skilled and extremely motivated workers have helped the industry adapt from an era of steam locomotives and iron-hulled vessels to an era of nuclear submarines and specialty steel products.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the 200th anniversary of the iron and steel industry in the City of Coatesville and recognizing the exemplary effort of employees, past and present, to produce world-class products and an enduring legacy for the City.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, June 29, 2010, I was absent from the House and missed rollcall vote 401.

Had I been present for rollcall 401, on a motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 5623, the Homebuyer Assistance and Improvement Act, I would have voted "aye."